

## **National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) Travel Grant Program for the 2006 Oceans Sciences Meeting**

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### **LONG-TERM GOALS**

To initiate and foster scientific exchanges between younger geophysical scientists to increase their potential for achieving important advances in the ocean sciences.

### **OBJECTIVES**

To bring a large group of qualified ocean sciences students to a high-quality meeting where they can exchange observations and ideas and plan future collaborations. To foster, via travel assistance to an important meeting, the professional familiarity among young scientists in the broad field of ocean sciences that will enhance their ability to work together in the future.

### **APPROACH**

Travel grants were available to U.S. citizens only, who must be presenting a paper/poster as first author. Previous AGU student travel grant recipients were not eligible. A selection committee consisting of representatives from the three participating societies, AGU, ASLO, and TOS reviewed the applications and ranked them, giving careful attention to the participation of underrepresented groups, geographic origin, and field of scientific interest. The National Oceanographic Partnership Program was clearly identified as the source of funding to the recipients.

Recipients were selected following discussions between each representative of the participating societies and the PI Peter Folger, AGU Director of Outreach and Research Support, based on the rankings and the funds available.

### **WORK COMPLETED**

Twenty students from 20 different institutions and 15 different states in the U.S. were awarded travel grants of \$600 each, totaling \$12,000.

### **RESULTS**

The students presented their papers, participated in the full meeting, and took advantage of the opportunity to build relationships among their peers and with other more senior scientists at the meeting. The short-term objectives were achieved as a result of the travel assistance provided by the

grant, and the ground has been prepared for achieving the long-term goal of fostering scientific exchanges among the young scientists that will lead to advances in the ocean sciences.

### **IMPACT/APPLICATIONS**

The students have increased their potential for fruitful scientific collaborations, gained experience in presenting scientific results to their peers, and have a better understanding and appreciation for the value of scientific meetings as a venue for advancing the science.